

THE DAILY CONSERVATIVE.

RALEIGH, N. C., MAY 9, 1864.

JOHN D. HYMAN, EDITOR.

FOR GOVERNOR:
Z. B. VANCE,
OF BUNCOMBE.

CHANGE OF TERMS.—In consequence of the high price of material, and everything necessary to carry on our establishment, we change our terms from this date as follows:
Daily paper, 1 month, \$3 00
" 3 months, 8 00
" 6 months, 15 00
Weekly paper, 3 months, 3 00
" 6 months, 5 00
Always to be paid in advance, and paper stopped when the time paid for expires.

THE TRUE CONSERVATIVE PLATFORM.—The supremacy of the civil over military law.
A speedy repeal of the act suspending the writ of HABEAS CORPUS.
A quiet submission to all laws, whether good or bad, which remain upon our statute books.
No reconstruction, or submission, but perpetual independence.
An unbroken front to the common enemy; but timely and repeated negotiations for peace by the proper authorities.
No separate State action through a Convention; no counter revolution; no combined resistance to the government.
Opposition to despotism in every form, and the preservation of Republican institutions in all their purity.

HOW TO SEND US MONEY.—Never send by mail when you can send by Express. All money sent by Express at our risk and expense. Those sending us money by mail must do so at their own risk.

BUSINESS NOTICE.—As we can no longer use Five Dollar Treasury notes at par, we shall be compelled, from and after this date, to take them at the same discount the larger notes of the old issue are subject to. We regret this necessity, but as everybody else is doing the same thing, we have no other alternative.
May 9th, 1864.

Gov. VANCE will address the people at Snow Camp Foundry, in Alamance county, on Tuesday, the 10th of May.

GREAT BATTLE BEGUN.

The great battle of the war commenced last Thursday between the grand armies commanded respectively by Gen. Lee and Gen. Grant. From the last account received from Richmond it was still furiously raging. As we have not as yet succeeded in making arrangements to publish the telegraphic news, we do not feel at liberty to give any particulars. But we will state that the news is, upon the whole, encouraging. There is a rumor that the Yankees have possession of the railroad between Petersburg and Weldon. This, of course, cuts off all communication with Richmond.

WILKESBORO' AND FAYETTEVILLE.

An attempt has been made to produce the impression that Gov. VANCE has contradicted himself, and that the positions taken at Wilkesboro' and at Fayetteville are antagonistic. Fortunately, the decision of this matter does not rest with certain Virginia papers, or even with the Raleigh Progress. The intelligent masses—the honest and unprejudiced people of North Carolina—are the judges of the facts in this case; and to them Gov. VANCE fearlessly appeals for his vindication against this contemptible charge.

In what respect is there the slightest incongruity between the two speeches?

Certainly there is no difference, so far as the subject of a Convention is concerned; for he opposed that measure, without reserve, both in Wilkesboro' and Cumberland, upon the ground, that so far from bringing peace to the country, it would multiply and prolong our difficulties.

It cannot be that he contradicted himself in regard to the question of "peace" and "negotiations." He has always taken the ground, that "independence" alone could bring with it the blessings of a lasting and honorable peace. Regarding "reconstruction" as impossible, and "submission" as involving the utter destruction of the South, he has invariably persuaded his fellow-citizens to turn a deaf ear to the voice that would whisper of either of these alternatives as the remedy for their sufferings. These sentiments pervade every sentence that Gov. VANCE has ever written or spoken on the subject of the war.

As to "negotiations," it must be borne in mind, that even, according to the testimony of the Progress, he placed himself, at Wilkesboro', "upon the record" as favoring proper efforts to treat with the enemy. But if there were the least doubt on the subject the following extract from that speech would settle the whole matter:

"If you think, fellow-citizens, as a great many of you do, that proper efforts have not been made during this warfare to obtain the peace which you desire, why, there cannot be any earthly objection to such efforts being made. I have been in favor of them myself, and from time to time so advised the President. If you think our government should tender the olive branch peace and let no occasion pass, why, fellow-citizens, as a matter of course, let it be done. But I beg you to recollect that there is a lawful and legal way pointed out by the Constitution of your country, and any effort you make in this way will be right and proper."

Notwithstanding this plain and unequivocal language, the most strenuous efforts were made to pervert it—to represent him as favoring nothing but the "arbitrament of the sword," as neither caring for nor "desiring peace," and as standing in a position of antagonism to Brown and Stephens on this vital issue. At Fayetteville, therefore, it became necessary for him to explain himself more fully, and to make good the words that he had previously uttered. This he did by a plain statement of the facts of the case—by showing that he had written to the President as early as December 1863, urging him to negotiate for peace, and that he and Gov. Brown had been acting in concert for several months. It must be remembered, however, that though the Governor proved himself an ardent friend of "negotiations," he was emphatic in declaring his unwillingness to have them attempted by other than the regularly constituted authorities—by those agents alone which the Confederate Constitution sanctions and indicates. But as we have said before, these prerequisites being observed, he will not stickle upon formalities, but will accept peace in any honorable way that it can be obtained.

It is manifest, therefore, that despite the comments of intermeddling "outsiders," and the perversions of political rivals, Gov. VANCE's positions at Wilkesboro' and Fayetteville are pre-eminently consistent, so far as relates to the subjects of "peace" and "negotiations."

What are the facts in regard to the act suspending the writ of habeas corpus?

When Gov. VANCE addressed his fellow-citizens of Wilkes, the act had not been published, and as its precise terms were unknown, he could not go into an elaborate discussion of its merits or defects. Besides, the citizens of that county had been greatly

irritated by the injudicious acts of some who had gone among them clothed in the uniform of the Confederacy, and vested with sufficient authority to wrong and outrage them—to visit the sins of erring children upon their sorrowing parents—to punish the many for the crimes of the few.

The Governor visited that County as the embodiment of law, the representative of order, the friend of peace, harmony and fraternity among his people. His mission was to conserve and not to destroy, to soothe and not to excite his fellow-citizens—to allay prejudice and not to awaken fresh resentments.

Stifling, therefore, his own indignation, for the time, he contented himself with expressing his disapprobation of the measure, and counselled a quiet acquiescence on the part of the people, inasmuch as the law was constitutional, according to the Progress, and it was in the power of their representatives to repeal it at an early day.

finding that in despite of his well known record, his position was being misunderstood or misrepresented—both to his own injury and the detriment of the country—at Fayetteville he made no concealment of the fact, that he had protested against the suspension of the writ, that he had urged the President not to make arrests under it in North Carolina, and that he had persistently exerted himself to secure its immediate repeal. He showed that in advance of Mr. STEPHENS and every one else, he had seen the impending danger, and that the great labor of his administration for months had been to avert it. He proved that, in resisting the encroachments of military power upon civil liberty, he had led, while those who were proclaimed "Conservatives of the strictest sect," had only followed in his footsteps.

He demonstrated that alike in advancing the cause of independence, and in the maintenance of the rights of the people, he had been second to no man in the Confederacy. In a word, he not only vindicated his consistency in every particular as a politician, but exhibited a record which will secure for him a proud position in the history of North Carolina as a patriot and a statesman.

A candid review of Gov. VANCE's speeches at Wilkesboro' and at Fayetteville, will convince any man that they are pre-eminently consistent, both in letter and in spirit—that there is no more antagonism in their respective positions, than between the germ and the matured fruit, the early morn and the mid day, the premise and its logical sequence. The first fore-shadows and embodies all that is contained in the other; while the latter is but the natural development and the legitimate elaboration of its predecessor.

The people understand these attempts to misrepresent Gov. VANCE. They spurn Virginia dictation as much as they despise the trickery of their own politicians. They appreciate fully the motives of those who would deceive them in regard to the conduct of their best friend, and refuse to learn the lesson of ingratitude so indudiously whispered. In August next they are prepared to administer such a rebuke, both to "intermeddling outsiders," and demagogues of their "own household," as will overwhelm them with utter shame and confusion. The "patriotic masses" are for VANCE, by an overwhelming majority, and they do not intend to be bullied or cajoled out of it. His consistency will be vindicated at the ballot-box.

Clothing.

The Progress indulges in a ridiculous attempt to make it appear that the troops from this State have not been properly clad, and insinuates that Governor VANCE has been negligent in that particular. We simply desire to state a few facts, so that the people may form some idea of the desparation of those who favor the election of Mr. HOLDEN.

1. The goods imported from England have been of the very best material.

2. More than enough clothing and shoes have been turned over to the Confederacy to fill the requisitions of every Quartermaster from this State in the service.

3. The fact that North Carolina soldiers are better clad and shod than those from other States, has produced so much discontent and dissatisfaction among the latter, as to induce the Quartermaster General to propose to take the clothing contract from the hands of our State authorities, so that all the troops in the service may be placed upon the same footing. The Governors of Virginia and Georgia are making preparations to import supplies for their troops, so as to imitate the example of North Carolina in furnishing proper clothing for her soldiers.

4. During Gov. VANCE's visit to the army he received the thanks of every General, from Gen. Lee down, for the manner in which he had clothed the North Carolina troops.

5. State officials are not clad in the "best cloth," but in that of an inferior quality. They were not even allowed to purchase that until enough had been imported for the wants of all in the field.

6. With the manner of distributing clothing to soldiers in the field, "on furlough," Gov. VANCE has nothing to do. His business is to import it, to turn it over to the Confederate Quartermaster, and then to see that it is paid for.

7. The Advance has been a splendid success in every particular.

We simply ask a candid consideration of these facts—all of which can be established by the most conclusive proof. The statement that our soldiers have been poorly clothed by Gov. VANCE, has about as much truth in it as the assertion that the army will vote for Mr. HOLDEN. They are both manufactured out of the "whole cloth."

The editor of the Asheville News says he has received a letter from Jackson county, which contains the following paragraph:

"No news of interest in this section. Everybody is now hopeful. The families of soldiers are being supplied with breadstuffs. Vance will sweep states in this region. Billy Holden is 'gone up.' Nobody wants his paper any longer."

FROM NEWBORN.

We have nothing but vague rumors and little of that. A letter from Plymouth negatives the rumor which we noticed yesterday placing the ram Albatross in the Neuse river below Newborn. On last Monday the ram was still in the waters adjacent to Plymouth, and was somewhat profitably employed. We still hold to the opinion all along expressed by us, that an attack on Newborn, at this time, is exceedingly doubtful. —State Journal.

Gen. D. H. HILL.—A correspondent of the Augusta Sentinel says Gen. D. H. Hill is now acting as volunteer aid to Gen. Beauregard.

THE WAR NEWS—THE ENEMY IN THE JAMES RIVER WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF GUNBOATS AND TRANSPORTS—THEIR FORCES LANDING AT BERMUDA HUNDREDS.

Official information was received here yesterday that the enemy was ascending the James river with a formidable fleet, consisting of transports, gunboats and several turreted vessels. During the day, later information stated that they had passed up above City Point, and were landing at Bermuda Hundreds, a point on the south side of the James river, below Drewry's Bluff. A dispatch from Bermuda Hundreds, dated at half past six o'clock, stated that some three or four regiments had landed there, and that their flag was then flying, and the disembarkation of troops was rapidly going on.

Dispatches received estimates the enemy's force about nine thousand strong. This fleet is said to number thirty-four vessels, including not only transports and gunboats, but several of the largest monitors.

It is thought that the enemy's plan in landing at Bermuda Hundreds is either to cut the Petersburg railroad or to move against Drewry's Bluff, taking it in the rear.

A small force of the enemy were also said to be landing from barges at Wilcox's wharf, on the north side of the James river, near Charles City Court House. This is done with the object of causing our forces on the Peninsula to fall back.

Information was also received last night that Lieutenant-Colonel Robbins, commanding Forty-second battalion of Virginia cavalry, at Forge's bridge, on the Lower Chickahominy, had been driven back by a force of the enemy's cavalry. The position he held was indefensible, and he was induced to retire more by consideration of prudence than by the enemy's demonstration.

We have no news from the armies in Northern Virginia beyond the fact that the whole Yankee army is moving, and that all indications point to an early engagement. The situation is such that the impending battle may be brought on at any moment. The War Department was, last night, without any later information from Gen. Lee.

It is evident that this movement up the James river is intended to be simultaneous with the battle on the Potomac, and we may, therefore, expect to hear to-day that the battle has opened.

A gentleman from Western Virginia informs us that Averill's forces are hovering about Lewisburg, and that it was thought likely that he would attempt another raid into that country about the time active operations commenced along our lines in Northern Virginia. A letter from a Highland county says that advices just received from Beverly represent that, a few days ago, two Yankee regiments, with six pieces of artillery, two hundred wagons, two hundred and forty horses, advanced in this direction; but, after proceeding some distance on the way, relinquished the trip and returned. There remain at Beverly two regiments. Forty thousand men have passed through Cumberland en route to reinforce Grant. —Richmond Examiner.

THE WAR.

Movements on the Rapidan—Battle Imminent.

The news received yesterday terminates all ambiguity as to the reality of the enemy's advance. The dispatches tell us that Grant has broken his camps in Culpeper, and abandoned the railroad as far back as Brandy Station, which is six miles beyond Culpeper Court House, and five miles this side of the Rappahannock. This point he probably holds as his future base of supplies. His whole army, except, of course, enough to preserve his communications with Brandy Station, through the lower end of Culpeper, is reported as having crossed the lower fords of the Rapidan, (Elly's and Germanna,) and taken position on the road leading from Orange Court House to Fredericksburg.

The dispatch says his lines extend from Parker's Store to Chancellorsville, which is a distance of eleven miles. The number of troops thus massed is variously estimated at from one hundred thousand to one hundred and eighty thousand men. The latter estimate we consider fabulous. Grant's whole force does not, probably, reach one hundred and twenty-five thousand, and most probably is about one hundred thousand. Of these, he must necessarily employ a considerable number in guarding his communications with the rear.

The movement of the enemy has, of course, put our own forces in motion. On yesterday morning, Gen. Lee's headquarters had been removed some distance to the right.

Our forces had been moved from left to right; and it is understood that several corps occupy the relative positions which they have been accustomed to hold in active operations. The two armies are in the vicinity of each other, and cannot be very remote from Mine Run, from the opposite sides of which Lee and Meade confronted each other in November last. Skirmishing is reported as frequent between scouting parties, and artillery has been heard in several directions. A grand battle seems inevitable, and if it be true that Grant has so scantily stocked the haversacks of his men as to deal out only four days' rations, it must come off immediately.

The Distances.

The following distances may be acceptable in assisting to understand the operations near the Rapidan: From Orange Court House to Fredericksburg is 41 miles. The road crosses no river. Proceeding from Orange Court House we come, at ten miles, to Verdierville; ten miles further brings us to Parker's Store; six miles further to Wilderness; five miles further to Chancellorsville; ten miles more to Fredericksburg.

From James River.

As a part of the enemy's operations, and as confirmation of the grave character of the present movements, we have to report the presence of a large fleet in the James river, upward bound. Information received yesterday, through the Signal Corps, dated Fort Boykin, announces that a fleet of four monitors, five gunboats, (two of them iron-clad,) and fifty-nine transports, estimated as bearing from five hundred to one thousand men each, is ascending the river. Fort Boykin is low down the James, (in Isle of Wight county, if we are not misinformed,) and a day or two will elapse before the expedition will be high enough up to develop its programme of operations. We shall be ready for Gen. Baldy Smith. We think the number of troops on the transports is much exaggerated in the above account.

From the Peninsula.

The enemy are said to be repairing the road from West Point, and that their cavalry have advanced to New Kent Court House, and which they had burned. This news was brought by a deserter, an Englishman, and we give it for what it is worth. He reports great dissatisfaction as existing in the Yankee army. —Rich. Sentinel, 6th inst.

One company of the Junior Reserves, of Wake, marched to Camp Holmes on Thursday, where they were assigned to quarters and put on duty. The old garrison is to go to the field immediately, we learn. —Progress.

THE CORPS.—The Marion S. C. "Star" of the 4th, says: "From all parts of the district we receive the gratifying intelligence that, notwithstanding the lateness of the spring, the crops at present are doing remarkably well."

Congress.

On Thursday last, in the U. S. Senate, Mr. Brown, of Miss., introduced a bill to provide passports for Senators and Representatives while travelling in the Confederate States, when Mr. Orr, of S. C., said he did not much like to pass such a bill, but he had been convinced by his experience during his recent passage here that something should be done to protect the civil against the military power. When he and two other Senators reached Petersburg, they had been ordered by the guard at the railroad train to leave the cars, notwithstanding that they had explained who they were. The guard finally relented, and insisted that some young ladies who were of the party should be turned out. The Assistant Provost Marshal was sent for, and he, like a sensible man, permitted the ladies to come on. He could not undertake to say what might have been the extent of the damage had the Provost Marshal and the guard undertaken to carry out their absurd and tyrannical instructions. He was prepared to attend to one of them, and the soldiers all through the cars protested against the turning out of the ladies, in a strange city, at 8 o'clock in the morning. He could not say how far this thing might be carried. This Congress might never assemble here again if it suited some military commander to prevent it.

Mr. Wigfall said he did not think any outrage had been committed. The inconvenience the Senator from South Carolina had suffered was accidental. The Secretary of War, or whoever issued the order, thought none but soldiers should occupy the trains, had omitted to put in parenthesis "except members of Congress." The provost marshal had transcribed his orders in letting Senators come. He ought to have telegraphed to the Secretary of War for instructions. But his capital mistake was in letting the young ladies come. There was entirely too much traveling going on. Some people were traveling to speculate, some for pleasure, some for one thing, and some for another. They would stop an army that they might visit. Inconveniences like that complained of would occur in war, and the best way was to pocket the supposed offence, and get along the best way you could. In this case, he did not think there had been any disposition to trample on human rights, or human freedom.

From the Richmond Sentinel.

THREE DAYS LATER FROM THE UNITED STATES.

We are indebted to the officers of the Exchange Bureau for United States papers as late as the 3rd instant, from which we make the following extracts:

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.
Washington, April 27.—The latest intelligence from the front left everything quiet there. A heavy reconnaissance into the Valley developed the fact that no considerable body of rebels are this side the Rapidan. The belief was general that Lee would not venture an offensive movement. A report prevailed at the front that Lee was removing his heavy artillery to Richmond.

Washington, April 29.—John Myner Batts gave a dinner yesterday, at which Generals Grant, Sedgwick, Hancock, Birney, Humphreys, Robinson, Williams, James, Rawlings, Mott, Curt, Webb, Gibbon, Eustis and Morris, were present. The entertainment was of the most sumptuous character.

Washington, Sunday, May 1.—Fourteen hundred sick came up from the Army of the Potomac last night. Accommodations in the hospitals here are now equal to 25,000 beds, and will be increased to 30,000.

Gen. Martindale, Military Governor of Washington, has been ordered to the field, and assigned to the command of a division in Gen. Butler's Department. The office of Military Governor will probably be abolished.

Rumors prevail to-night that Gen. Banks has been superseded by Gen. Augur.

The Virginians who have been locked up as our

armies advanced, to prevent their giving information to the rebels, as they never fail to do when opportunity offered, have been sent from the Old Capital Prison to Point Lookout.

Washington, May 1.—A dispatch was received to-day by the Government from Fortress Monroe, stating that the rear of Beauregard's army passed through Petersburg on yesterday morning.

His force is estimated at from 18,000 to 20,000 men. Nothing of special note has transpired to-day. Pickets of both armies extend up and down the Rappahannock and Rapidan.

A considerable rebel force is reported to be at Fredericksburg, at work throwing up more earthworks on the heights.

The rebels are also reported to be withdrawing from the vicinity of Madison Court House, and concentrating in front of our left and centre.

One division of Longstreet's corps, according to deserters, is at Hanover Junction in reserve.

On the same authority, Lee's strength is stated to be upward of 100,000 men.

ANOTHER DISPATCH.

Washington.—May 1.—The information received from the Army of the Potomac, to-night, states that the troops which went to Madison Court House on Thursday, burned the town into ashes. It is not known whether the work was done by order or not.

Gen. Burnside visited Gen. Meade last night, and spent some hours in his quarters.

Deserters who came in yesterday report that Lee's army is 80,000 strong, with 22,000 effective cavalry, all in good condition, with ten days' supplies distributed to them. The railroad trains were running night and day bringing up reinforcements.

The enemies of Gov. Vance are circulating a report through this country that he has advised the Confederate Government to abandon this portion of North Carolina, that it is not worth defending, &c., &c. We take pleasure in saying there is not one word of truth in this report. Gov. Vance has at no time given such advice. On the contrary, he deems it not only the duty, but the highest interest of the Government to protect this mountain region, and the Government will hold it at any cost. We speak advisedly. No intention or thought of abandoning Western North Carolina has been at any time entertained. When the enemy occupy this country it will be at a fearful cost to himself.

In this connection we would urge upon our citizens the duty of a hearty and zealous co-operation with the military authorities in the defence of the country. The duties of the excellent commander of this Department are arduous and many. Do not hamper and cripple his operations for your defence by unreasonable opposition to the measures he deems advisable for the public good. Sacrifices must be made, discomforts submitted to, if we would keep the invader from our homes. Better yield something to the common defence, than submit to be pillaged and plundered of all by the enemy. The commander is of course the best judge of the requirements and necessities of the service, and we feel sure no one in this community will accuse him of exacting a needless sacrifice from any citizen. At any cost, however, let every citizen come up promptly to the aid of the authorities, and our homes will never be polluted by the tread of the foul invader.

Our farmers should bend every energy to the work of production. They have the promise of the Government that they shall be protected and they can render quite as efficient service in the field of husbandry as in the field of battle. Our prospects, under the blessings of heaven, are bright and brightening. Let all be cheerful, confident and energetic; each in his allotted place, striving to do his utmost to promote the common cause, and peace and independence will soon be ours. —Asheville News.

THE MERCURY!

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ELEGANTLY PRINTED
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May 7, 1864. 11—6m.

Controlling Quartermaster's Office,
RALEIGH, May 6th, 1864.

ON AND AFTER THE 9TH INST., THE OFFICE OF
the Controlling Quartermaster of the tax in kind will be
in Wilmington, N. C.

R. B. MACRAE,
Major and Controlling Quartermaster.

DAILY PRAYER MEETING!
THE CAUSE AND THE CRISIS DEMAND IT.

A PRAYER MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE
Methodist Church, in this City, Daily, at 5 o'clock,
P. M.

All Christians and the public are respectfully invited.
Come promptly. Don't wait for the bell—no bell will
be rung.

Raleigh, N. C., May 5th, 1864. 12—6m.

WAYSIDE HOSPITAL,
GREENSBORO, N. C., MAY 26, 1864.

BY ORDERS FROM DR. EDWARD WARREN, Surgeon
General for the State of North Carolina, I have opened
a WAYSIDE HOSPITAL in the town of Greensboro, N. C.,
where all Sick and Wounded Soldiers traveling can find
a resting place.

J. L. NEAGLE,
Asst. Surg. in charge.

SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
RALEIGH, N. C., APRIL 27, 1864.

PROPOSE TO ESTABLISH, IN THE CITY OF
Raleigh, a manufactory for

ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.

The object of this enterprise is to supply those useful
articles to all soldiers from this State, who have been, or
may be, so maimed in the service as to require them.
Privates and non-commissioned officers will be furnished
gratuitously. Commissioned officers will be charged the
actual cost.

Disabled soldiers are requested to correspond with the
undersigned, giving name, regiment, rank, locality of am-
putation, and the precise measurement of the remaining
member.

I wish to employ a number of competent mechanics for
the above named purpose. All such are invited to com-
municate immediately with this office.

EDWARD WARREN,
Surgeon General North Carolina.

All papers in the State are requested to copy for
one month, and send bill to this office.

The Donors to the Soldiers' Orphan Fund
ARE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED TO MEET IN THE
Institution for the Deaf and Dumb in Raleigh, N. C., on Fri-
day, 27th May, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Those who cannot be pre-
sent, should send proxies. A full attendance is desired for im-
portant business.

The Committee of the Grand Lodge of Masons for St. John's
College are respectfully invited to be present.

CHARLES F. DEEMS,
Financial Secretary.

9—d—27—wt 27 may.

BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF
this Bank, will be held on the